

I-405 and Eastside Projects Update

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Why is there so much congestion at the I-90/SR 18 interchange?

Commuters driving on eastbound SR 18 near I-90 may experience longer delays and backups than usual. The increased congestion is not due to construction or the traffic light timing at the I-90/SR 18 interchange. The backups are likely caused by the recent removal of the signal on SR 18 at 244th Ave. SE near Maple Valley.

The 244th Ave. SE signal controlled congestion by metering the arrival of vehicles at the I-90/SR 18 interchange. When we removed the signal in late August, the bottleneck near Maple Valley was eliminated. Now eastbound SR 18 traffic reaches the line of traffic at the I-90 interchange more quickly. The [improvements we're building at the interchange](#) should help ease the congestion.

Speaking of building improvements, please be prepared for nighttime closures of the eastbound I-90 ramp to SR 18 Monday through Thursday nights (Oct. 2-5) from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. Crews will survey, re-stripe, install guardrails and set temporary barriers. We'll provide a signed detour that will direct you to the next exit and turn you back to enter SR 18 from the west. Thank you for your patience during our construction.

More time to submit your comments on SR 520 bridge replacement

In response to agency and community requests, we've extended the public comment period for the SR 520 Bridge Replacement Project's Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) until Tuesday, Oct. 31, 2006. This document, released in August 2006, evaluates two build alternatives – a 4- and 6-lane replacement, and multiple design options for the 6-lane alternative. Responses to comments received during the Draft EIS comment period will be included in the Final EIS. [Submit your comments or download a copy of the EIS.](#)

I-405 travel options

We're [helping you get around](#) during I-405 construction. Use the [online trip planner](#) and take advantage of additional service in Kirkland: [new Metro route 644](#), [expanded Metro route 255](#).

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